



TORONTO TOPICS.

From our own Correspondent
Mr. Muddle has been very sick but by his wife's careful nursing he is around again. Those who understand his natural signs enjoy some humorous stories from him.

On the 12th an accident that might have been serious happened to Thomas Bradshaw by a fall at Messy & Harris' shops. Thereby his knee was severely wrenched but we are glad he is at work again.

Arthur Clark occasionally rides to the city on his bicycle from Aurora to attend services. He was the guest of Mr P. Allen a few days.

Mr. Daniel Hadden of Moore, a retired well-to-do farmer has bought a new bicycle and spends his time visiting his many friends.

R. M. Thomas stopped with his friends Mr. and Mrs. Redell a few days previous to his returning to Chicago for the winter.

We can boast of several deaf-mute men of genius. Messrs. Rutell and Waddelburn have not as yet invented perpetual motion. Mr. Wm J. Terrell invented a door bell alarm and he claims to have a patent bicycle in view which he hopes will be a success.

Thanksgiving Day was decidedly cold that every body seemed glad to stay in doors. Towards evening the ice was in a condition for skating.

Mr. and Mrs. Riddell have moved from Nassau St. to Bathurst St. Mr. Alex. O'Gillivie has secured a position in Nasmith's confectionery.

Miss Laura Souls, Allandale was the guest of her cousin, Miss Minnie Slater, lately.

Dr. James Ross, a promising young physician, died very suddenly by a fit of coughing which resulted in hemorrhage. He was one of the Heroes of Batoche. His kindly face will be missed by the dead in the West End. It was one of his delights to spend a few leisure moments to practice sign language. He came from Fortu some years ago.

Messrs. Ormiston and Spence, two wealthy farmers near Port Perry, surprised us with a call on Thanksgiving. They came on the excursion to purchase goods as they can get them cheaper in this city. They were well entertained by Mr. Slater who is always ready to serve any one with some good speeches he has in store.

Burglars entered the cellar of David Hambly, Nobleton, and carried off a quantity of jams, jelly, etc. This is the second time within a year they have been visiting.

OIL SPRINGS.

From a Correspondent
Mr Archie Milloy, of Petrolia, the dentist, and his sister Miss Milloy, the lady-principal of the Petrolia public schools, are the cousins of the genial Mr. Angus A. McIntosh of Toronto.

When in Petrolia Mr. Willie Kay called to see Mrs. Proctor, the beloved cousin of Mrs. D. W. McDermid of the Manitoba Institution, and had a brief but pleasant talk with the estimable lady.

While riding on a bicycle one night last month Mr. Hugh Beaton had the misfortune to fall off and sprain his foot so badly that he was confined to his house for a few days.

On the 20th of last October, which was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formal opening of the Ontario Institution Mr. Willie Kay, despite the cold weather, took a brisk walk to Mr. Wm. Esson's residence. No wonder the folks had such a jolly time with the ever-welcome visitor.

Last September a saw mill in Holmsdale, five miles from here, owned and run by Mr. J. Bloom, father of the energetic shoe-maker Dunk, was totally destroyed by fire along with two full cars and an empty one on the track adjoining, belonging to the Michigan Central Railway.

An old Knox church, a frame one, which stood for thirty years, was pulled down, and a new and handsome brick structure has been erected and will be formally opened shortly under the able pastorate of Rev. C. H. Daly. Most of the officers, teachers and pupils of the Institute will, no doubt, remember having seen the minister there as a visitor about two years ago.

Mrs. S. Noville left here the other week for Rodney, Elgin Co., where she will spend a few weeks with her parents after which she will join her husband in Rudolph, Ohio. Many friends here will regret her departure. She is a cousin of

Mr. McKillop of the Ontario Institution and Mrs. James McClelland of Ottawa, and had been for a long time a neighbor of Mr. Willie Kay who will therefore miss her good natured and amiable manner.

Mr. Donald McPhail, of California, has been sojourning here all the summer. He is a cousin of Mr. Hugh Beaton and is a Baptist minister. He was a devoted companion during the late Mr. Donald M. Beaton's illness and his homeward journey.

Mr. Duncan Bloom was here the other week applying for a situation in a shoe shop. He did not get it, however, and will continue in the employ of Mr. A. Murrelock, in Thamesville. Duncan will be surprised to learn that the same shop with two others, known as the old Wilson block, are a mass of ashes now.

THE MACKAY INSTITUTION.

From our own Correspondent

Our school opened on the eleventh of September with a, for us, large attendance. We have at present twenty-seven girls and thirty-six boys, making a total of sixty-three pupils in the school.

Two of the older blind boys, having completed their education, have left the school and are earning their own living. To take their places there are thirteen new pupils, so you see the Institution is quite full.

The new pupils are bright children and are all in the articulation classes, which are very full, and are making gratifying progress.

There has been only one change in the teaching staff this year, Miss Houghton having resigned. Miss King, of St. John, N. B., a graduate of Miss Yale's school, Northampton, has taken her place.

The very sudden death of Doctor Williams, one of our medical attendants, has deprived the Institution of one of its best friends. Pupils and teachers alike feel that it will be very hard indeed to fill his place.

During the summer holidays, new play-rooms were erected for the children. The building is of stone, two stories in height. The rooms are large, airy, well finished and heated by hot water. Later on the boys hope to turn their room into a gymnasium.

The 31st of October being Halloween, the pupils had a masquerade party. The costumes were very good, especially those of two of the boys, one of whom dressed as the "Grand Old Man," (Gladstone) and the other to represent a duke.

As the cold weather and Christmas are drawing so near, the pupils are looking forward to the holidays and expect soon to begin their skating rink.

Our carpenters are busy laying a sidewalk from the Institution gate to the cars, which now come within five minutes walk of the school.

We expect our new printer next week. The annual meeting will take place on December 4th. It will be private, and will be held in the Secretary's office.

A new blind pupil will enter next week. He will be the last for the year 1895.

Closing, you have our thanks for the fine cut of the Institution which appeared in your last number, also for the very kind and encouraging manner in which you spoke of the work being done here.

J. McL.

DENFIELD NOTES.

From our own Correspondent.

Mrs. Chas. A. W. Gustin and her two children, of Forest, visited her mother and relatives in Denfield, Poplar Hill and London last week. Her eldest daughter, Alice Maude, attends High School at Forest, and boards with the Rev. D. Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. John Pincombe have a beautiful home at Poplar Hill. John has built stone foundations under his barns, which improved their appearance very much. Any person visiting their home must be struck with the home-like feeling which pervades, and their genial affable manner, for they are always glad to see their many friends.

Speaking of long corn stalks and pea straw, I think our friend Andrew Noyes beats the record, so far as is published, having pea straw which measured 11 and 12 feet in length. Around Denfield, Andrew is considered a model farmer, having thrashed 1,700 bushels of grain without thistles or other weeds, and his root crops are a marvel. Andrew, who lives with his mother, has a beautiful home, nicely situated, with every convenience.

One Way.

A writer in *Intelligence* tells of the way our teacher dealt with boys:—

"My friend, Miss B. has made a study of the art of storming the citadel of a boy's heart. Don't talk to me about the magical influence that great lawyers have over a jury! Miss B. can excel any lawyer; or I ever heard of. She can do with the boy whatever she will.

"I once—only once, for Miss B. does not deal with boys in the presence of a third party—accidentally had a chance to see how she operated. She motioned to the boy to sit down opposite her, and then without a word began to look at him. Such a look—so earnest; so penetrative; so all-seeing! No wonder that the boy soon began to look ill at ease, troubled, awed. It was like the eye of God in the intensity of the gaze.

"Once the boy glanced up pleadingly, as if to say, 'Oh, speak to me—say anything you will—only don't look at me. After this prolonged silence she began to rehearse his offenses. She spoke very slowly. She paused between sentences for him to ponder on what she had said. As she went on her voice grew more and more impressive. Every word weighed a pound. Tears stood in his eyes. Her voice changed. Her tone became grievous, disappointed. She reminded him of the kindness that had been shown him, of little favors he had received, of things that had been done to make his school life pleasant. (The tears were flowing fast now.) Then she said in such a sad, sad tone: 'For all this kindness how have you repaid me? Only by disobedience and wrong-doing.' By this time the boy is so broken down that she can do with him as she will. The matter is brought to such a fortunate consummation that the boy goes forth tender, humble, determined to do better and revering his teacher as never before. What do you think of Miss B.'s way?"

Justice and Injustice.

Justice and injustice are closely akin in childhood. A child early detects injustice in others, though he is not delicately susceptible to it in himself. The same is largely true of children of larger growth. At first with the young child injustice is little more than a change of habitual action. Whatever disturbs his uniform activity, whatever occurs that he does not expect, is to him an injustice. With him, justice is the expected, injustice the unexpected.

One of the highest missions of home and school is to establish a spirit and habit of justice in the child, so that he shall have a keen sense thereof as applied to himself. This should be well done before the child comes to school; but, if it has not been accomplished, it should receive early and persistent attention.

Recent child studies reveal the fact that most children get the impression that the teacher is unjust at times. Their estimate of punishments is almost invariably based on the fact that some one else ought to have been punished also, or that some one should have been punished more severely, or himself less so. These child studies have revealed the fact that almost the only view a child has of his punishment is its justice or injustice, and that he almost invariably argues himself into the position that it was unjust. In no case yet discovered, I think, has a child complained of the severity if he said, "I deserved it."

This being the case, it shows conclusively that the punishments usually lose their virtue because they become an excuse for the child's conduct.

It is of greater service to the child and to mankind for a teacher to train children to estimate justice and injustice with the personal element eliminated than it is to secure 100 per cent. in arithmetic, or even in spelling.—*The American Teacher.*

Religion is not something that is fastened upon the earth outside of life, but the awakening of the truth inside of life.

Convey thy love to a friend as an arrow to the mark, to stick there; not as a ball against the wall, to rebound back to thee.

Let us all resolve: First, to attain the grace of silence; second, to deem all fault finding that does no good a sin, and to resolve, when we are happy ourselves, not to poison the atmosphere for our neighbors by calling on them to remark every painful and disagreeable feature of daily life; third, to practise the grace and virtue of praise.—*Harriet Beecher Stowe.*

Superintendent's Office,
Belleville, Dec. 2, 1895.

Parents and Friends:—

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS. The holidays are approaching. I wish all the pupils could go home, for then those of us who are on duty, or on duty 24 hours of every day, would not be so tired, but as we cannot close the school then ALL are expected to remain, and we shall try and afford the children all the pleasure we can at the Institution. Only Christmas Day and New Year's Day will be strictly observed as holidays. The classes will go right along as usual, attending amusements instead of study most of the time.

If parents must have their children at Christmas or New Year's we shall offer no objection to their coming for them to the Institution; but, pupils who are thus taken away will not be received again until next September. Pupils taken home during the Christmas holidays a few years ago, brought back measles, mumps, etc., and scores of children were infected. The general health is good now and we do not wish to run any risks that can be avoided.

Forward by express charges prepaid or post, some small, inexpensive love token for your child, send it so as to reach here not later than the 25th, put the name of the child in care of the Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, Belleville, on each box or parcel. *Something from home* is highly prized. **BR**

There are a few children who have no parents living and some whose friends are too poor to send them anything. I feel sure they will not be forgotten by some well-to-do parents.

Parents and friends of pupils will be welcome visitors to the classrooms at any time. We cannot furnish lodgings or meals to friends of pupils at the Institution, but any one coming may obtain excellent accommodation at reasonable rates at hotels in Belleville. The following are recommended:—Hotel Quinte, Queen's, Anglo-Dominion, and Doctor's, at the T. R. Station.

Wishing you "A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year."

I am, yours faithfully,

R. Mathison
Supt.

American little girl to her mamma—
"What is a dead letter, please?"
Mamma: "One that has been given to some father to post."

A little girl asked a minister, "Do you think my father will go to heaven?"
"Why yes, my child; why do you ask?"
"Well because if he don't have his own way there he won't stay long. I was a thinking."—*Self.*